



NEWS

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Public Comment Period for Valero Refining Company Cogeneration Plant

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has issued a preliminary Determination of Compliance (PDOC) to the Valero Refining Company Cogeneration Plant, located at 3400 East 2nd Street in Benicia. The purpose of this project is to install a 102-megawatt power plant that will be operated at the refining facility. There are two phases. The equipment in the first phase will produce electricity for the Valero refinery that will mostly eliminate the need for local utility power. The second phase will produce electricity that can be exported into the grid for use by other businesses and households in Northern California.

The Air District is requiring that this cogeneration plant utilize the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) to mitigate the project's air pollution. This is defined as the most effective emission control technology or the most stringent emission limitation available. The Air District is also requiring emission offsets for some pollutants. Valero Company will shutdown three boilers which will no longer be needed to provide steam.

The public comment period will end on September 20, 2001. During this time, any member of the public may comment on any aspect of the preliminary Determination of Compliance. "We want to encourage members of the public to contact us to obtain documents, and other information related to the facility," said Ellen Garvey, the Air District's Executive Officer. Written comments should be directed to Doug Hall, Supervising Air Quality Engineer.

Copies of the proposed Preliminary Determination of Compliance and a copy of Air District regulations are available on the District's website at www.baaqmd.gov. To obtain a hard copy, call the District's Public Information Office at (415) 749-4900 or make a written request to:

BAAQMD
Att: PDOC Request
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

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